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(54) Security device

(57) A security device for forming a ring or shackle seal. The device includes a housing (14) at one end of a band (10) into which a male element (12) at the other end of the band is insertable. The housing has opposing laterally offset teeth (28) integrally formed therein for interlocking with complementary recesses (54, 56) in opposite faces of the male element to prevent withdrawal of the male element from the housing. The housing includes only the one entrance (16) for receiving the male element which element may include blocking means (60, 62) for occupying the opening into the housing. The device confers improved security in that the teeth are inaccessible for pre-tampering prior to the seal being formed and once formed, access into the housing is inhibited by the blocking means.

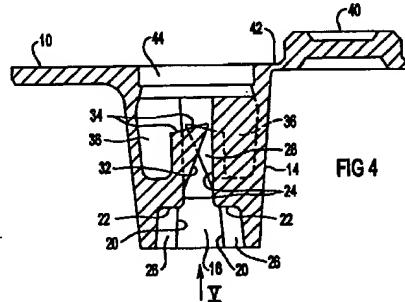


FIG 4

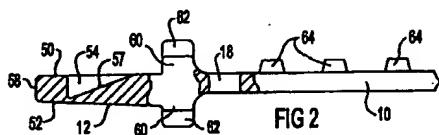


FIG 2



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 10 0009

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.CI/6)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.CI/6)
			G09F
<p>Place of search</p> <p>THE HAGUE</p> <p>Date of compilation of the search</p> <p>26 May 2000</p> <p>Examiner</p> <p>Puhl, A</p>			
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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